GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:204
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2008
NREGS
Karunakaran Shri P.;Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds sanctioned and released during the current year under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), State-wise;

(b) the details of the works competed by the various States under the scheme during the current year; and

(c) the assessment of the Government about the overall implementation of the Scheme so far during the year?

Answer

MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR.RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.204 to be answered on 12.12.2008

(a) State-wise details of funds released so far during the current financial year are given in Annexure-I.
(b) State-wise details of number of completed works so far during the current year are given in Annexure-II.
(c) NREGA has been proved to be an historic and revolutionary Act by legally guaranteeing employment opportunities to rural households across the country. So far, during the current year (up to October,2008) 3.11 crore households have been provided employment,119.96 crore persondays of employment has been generated which includes 30% for SCs,25% for STs and 50% for women.The Act provides that minimum 60% of the expenditure should be towards wages to the unskilled workers.However,during the current year,so far 70% of the total expenditure has been towards wages to the unskilled workers.The Act accords high priority to works relating to water conservation and water harvesting.So far,around 50% of the total works have been taken up under water conservation and water harvesting sector.

NREGA has been leveraged for financial inclusion as wages are to be paid to the NREGA workers through Post Office and Bank accounts.So far,4.92 crore accounts of NREGA workers in Post Offices/Banks have been opened.Payment of wages through Postal/Bank accounts has inculcated a habit of savings amongst the NREGA workers.Insurance of NREGA workers has become a part of Janshree Bima Yojana with effect from 15.7.2008.

NREGA has induced transparency and accountability in governance. A Web based MIS www.nrega.nic.in has been implemented which places all the data relating to financial and programme performance in public domain.95.48 lakh muster rolls have been verified. Field verification of 2.29 lakh works has been completed at the district level and 14.07 lakh works have been inspected at block level.Social Audit has been held in 1.59 lakh Gram Panchayats.

NREGA has strengthened Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).PRIs are principal authorities for planning and implementation of the Scheme.At least,50% of works in terms of its costs under a scheme is required to be implemented through Gram Panchayats (GP).Dedicated staff has been placed for implementation of NREGA.

NREGA has also resulted in capacity building of field functionaries and grass root institutions. So far 1.92 lakh Gram Rozgar Sahayaks have been appointed in the GPs out of which 163832 have been trained under NREGA.At the Block level,5454 Programme Officers have been appointed and 5067 have been trained; 23196 technical staff has been appointed out of which 19687 have been trained.Besides,12325 non-technical staff has also been appointed and 11238 have been trained.Further,7.19 lakh PRI functionaries and 6.17 lakh Vigilance and Monitoring Committees members have also been trained under NREGA.

Reports indicate that implementation of NREGA has resulted in increase in wage negotiation capacity of wage earners and has reduced distress migration of labourers to big cities.Implementation of NREGA has had a positive impact on agricultural productivity, improved irrigation facilities and recharging of water tables.